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GREENLEE WINNER SULLIVAN

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**GREENLEE, WINNER AND SULLIVAN, P.C.**

4875 East Pearl Circle, Suite 200

Boulder, Colorado 80301 USA

Telephone (303) 499-8080

Fax (303) 499-8089

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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

**DATE:** December 20, 2005

**TOTAL NO. PAGES:** 16 including cover sheet

**TO:** Mail Stop Amendment

**FIRM NAME:** Patent and Trademark Office

**FACSIMILE NUMBER:** (571) 273-8300

**FROM:** Donna M. Ferber

**RE:** 10/825,959  
For: Method and Apparatus to Reduce Slot Width in Tubular Members  
Our Docket No. 43-03

**COMMENTS:**

**Enclosed is an Amendment and Response to Office Action for filing via facsimile.**

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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DEC 20 2005

Appl. No.: 10/825,959  
Applicant: Hruschak, *et al.*  
Filed: April 16, 2004  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO REDUCE SLOT WIDTH IN  
TUBULAR MEMBERS  
Confirmation No.: 8213  
Group Art Unit: 3725  
Examiner: Tolan, Edward Thomas  
Docket No.: 44-03  
Customer No.: 23713

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December 20, 2005

  
Stephanie Lotwis

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 28, 2005, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment and provide the following response.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12 of this paper.